



(11) Publication number : **0 652 678 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(21) Application number : **94307853.5**

(51) Int. Cl.⁶ : **H04N 7/36, H04N 7/26**

(22) Date of filing : **26.10.94**

(30) Priority : **04.11.93 US 147802**

(43) Date of publication of application :
10.05.95 Bulletin 95/19

(84) Designated Contracting States :
DE FR GB IT

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report :
27.09.95 Bulletin 95/39

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(54) **Method and apparatus for improving motion compensation in digital video coding.**

(57) A novel method and apparatus for use in digital video compression provides improved block-based motion compensation using the global motion of a video frame. A video frame comprising a plurality of blocks may be compressed for transmission using block motion vectors. Motion vectors are generated by block matching a block to be coded with a block within a reference frame and determining the displacement therebetween. To effect block matching, motion compensation techniques define a search window within one or more reference frames within which a displaced block will be found. According to the present invention, the location of the search window within a reference frame is defined using the global motion of the frame.

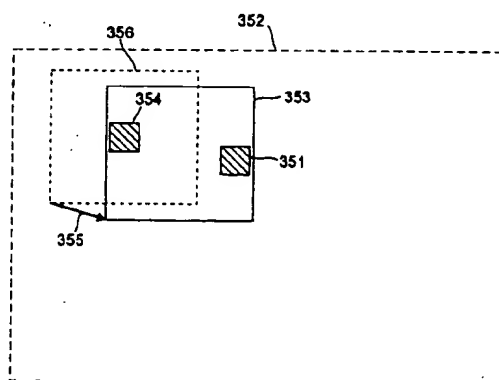


FIG. 3B

EP 0 652 678 A3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 30 7853

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP-A-0 557 007 (SONY CORP.) * the whole document * ---	1-21	H04N7/36 H04N7/26
A	EP-A-0 419 752 (RAI RADIOTELEVISIONE ITALIANA) * the whole document * ---	1-21	
Y	EP-A-0 518 314 (MITSUBISHI DENKI K.K.) * the whole document * ---	1-21	
Y	SIGNAL PROCESSING OF HDTV III, 4 September 1991 ELSEVIER, NL, pages 225-232, XP 000379963 P. HOU 'Motion Estimation for High Quality Picture Interpolation' * paragraph 2 * ---	1-21	
A	EP-A-0 188 269 (MITSUBISHI DENKI K.K.) * page 20, line 11 - page 27, line 7; figures 1-6 * ---	1,2,8, 11,12,16	
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 12 no. 99 (E-594) ,31 March 1988 & JP-A-62 230179 (NIPPON HOSO KYOKAI <NHK>) 8 October 1987, * abstract * ---	1-7, 16-21	H04N
A	EP-A-0 414 113 (DEUTSCHE THOMSON-BRANDT GMBH) * the whole document * -----	1-8, 16-21	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 4 August 1995	Examiner Foglia, P
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 150 (04.92) (P.O.C.W.)